

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 13, Budget Resolution.

Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 93, Adjournment Resolution.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4331–S4403

Measures Introduced: Forty-eight bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 781–828, S. Res. 98–103, and S. Con. Res. 17. **Pages S4309–11**

Measures Reported:

S. 454, to improve the organization and procedures of the Department of Defense for the acquisition of major weapon systems, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 515, to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform, with amendments.

S. Con. Res. 11, condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and reaffirming the support of Congress for the mandate of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, with amendments.

Page S4309

Measures Passed:

Budget Resolution: By 55 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 154), Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 13, setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014, as amended, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S4233–93

Adopted:

By 96 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. 130), Dodd/Shelby Modified Amendment No. 913, to provide for enhanced oversight of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System concerning the use of emergency economic assistance. **Pages S4249–50, S4277**

By 59 yeas to 39 nays (Vote No. 131), Sanders Modified Amendment No. 875, to require information from the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System about the use of emergency economic assistance. **Pages S4245–46, S425053, S4277–78**

Conrad (for Bennett/Hatch) Amendment No. 759, to prohibit changing current tax laws for charitable contribution tax deductions to pay for modernizing the health care system. **Page S4254**

Conrad (for Bennet/Roberts) Amendment No. 799, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to address the systemic inequities of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement that lead to access problems in rural areas, including access to primary care and outpatient services, hospitals, and an adequate supply of providers in the workforce. **Page S4254**

Conrad (for Casey/Stabenow) Amendment No. 755, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to provide for accelerated carbon capture and storage and advanced clean coal power generation research, development, demonstration, and deployment.

Page S4254

Conrad (for Brown) Amendment No. 808, to provide for legislation that removes Social Security numbers from Medicare cards and to pay for such legislation by reducing waste, fraud, and abuse in other federal programs. **Page S4254**

By 56 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. 133), Reed Amendment No. 949, to provide for the expenditure of the remaining Troubled Asset Relief Program funds for the benefit of consumers. **Pages S4254–55**

Conrad (for Coburn) Amendment No. 892, to end bonuses awarded to contractors and government executives responsible for over budget projects and programs that fail to meet basic performance requirements. **Page S4256**

Conrad (for Coburn) Amendment No. 893, to support President Obama in his effort to go line by line through the Federal Budget in order to help him eliminate wasteful, inefficient, and duplicative programs. **Pages S4256–57**

By 65 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. 135), Graham Amendment No. 910, to protect middle-income taxpayers from a national energy tax. **Page S4257**

Conrad (for Menendez) Amendment No. 921, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund for the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), and other related programs. **Page S4258**

Conrad (for Coburn) Amendment No. 895, to provide a deficit-neutral reserve fund to end abusive no-bid contracts by requiring all Federal contracts over \$25,000 to be competitively bid. **Page S4258**

Conrad (for Murray) Amendment No. 880, to create a deficit-neutral reserve fund for legislation to enable States to establish or expand quality programs of early childhood home visitation. **Pages S4258–59**

Conrad (for Barrasso) Amendment No. 788, to fund the account Hazardous Fuel Reduction on Federal Lands (within Function 300) at the level authorized in the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003. **Pages S4259, S4261**

Hutchison Amendment No. 866, to provide a point of order against legislation that has the effect of imposing a greater tax liability on taxpayers who are married than if such taxpayers had filed individual tax returns. **Pages S4259–60**

Brownback Modified Amendment No. 840, to provide funds for a Commission on Budgetary Accountability and Review of Federal Agencies. **Page S4260**

By 89 yeas to 9 nays (Vote No. 137), Boxer/Ensign Modified Amendment No. 953, to add a deficit-neutral reserve fund for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers afterschool program. **Pages S4260, S4261**

Snowe Amendment No. 773, to provide for a deficit-neutral reserve fund to provide for the extension of the top individual tax rates for small businesses after 2010. **Page S4261**

Conrad (for Boxer) Amendment No. 816, to provide access to affordable, quality child care for middle class families by making improvements in the employer-provided child care credit and the dependent care tax credit. **Pages S4261–62**

Conrad (for Bennett) Amendment No. 885, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to cover the full cost of pension obligations for employees of laboratories and environmental cleanup sites under the jurisdiction of the Department of Energy. **Pages S4261–62**

Conrad (for Dodd) Amendment No. 872, to add a deficit-neutral reserve fund for provisions of critical resources to firefighters and fire departments. **Pages S4261–63**

Conrad (for Collins/Bingaman) Amendment No. 827, to modify the provision relating to the deficit-neutral reserve fund for clean energy legislation to include industrial energy efficiency programs. **Pages S4261–62**

Conrad (for Carper) Amendment No. 764, to establish a deficit-reduction reserve fund for the elimination and recovery of improper payments. **Pages S4261–62**

Conrad (for Pryor) Amendment No. 795, to modify a deficit neutral reserve fund to ensure improvement of infrastructure related to flood control. **Pages S4261–62**

Conrad (for Bunning) Amendment No. 817, to provide a deficit-neutral reserve fund for the repeal of the 1993 increase in the income tax and social security benefits. **Pages S4261–62**

Conrad (for Dorgan) Amendment No. 837, to increase funding for organ transplantation and organ donation activities at the Health Resources and Services Administration by \$10 million in FY 2010. **Pages S4261–62**

Conrad (for Bunning) Amendment No. 818, to provide for a deficit-neutral reserve fund to provide for legislation to increase the amount of capital losses allowed to individuals. **Pages S4261–62**

Conrad (for Landrieu/Grassley) Amendment No. 874, to provide a deficit-neutral reserve fund for foster care financing reform. **Pages S4261–64**

Conrad (for Roberts) Amendment No. 839, to fully fund the small business child care grant program under section 8303 of the Small Business and Work Opportunity Act of 2007. **Pages S4261–63**

Conrad (for Reed/Collins) Amendment No. 877, to ensure that the deficit-neutral reserve fund for higher education may be used for Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership programs. **Pages S4261–63**

Conrad (for Burr) Amendment No. 797, to develop biodefense medical countermeasures by fully funding the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) in a fiscally responsible manner. **Pages S4261–63**

Conrad (for Pryor) Amendment No. 802, to provide a deficit-neutral reserve fund for the Veterans Health Administration to ensure that the supply of appropriately prepared health care professionals is available to meet the needs of the Veterans Health Administration. **Pages S4261–63**

Conrad (for Enzi/Barrasso) Amendment No. 826, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to repeal certain deductions from mineral revenue payments made to States. **Pages S4261–63**

Reid Amendment No. 730, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to permanently extend the deduction for state and local sales taxes. **Page S4264**

By 94 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 138), Thune Amendment No. 803, to protect charitable giving by ensuring that organizations that provide important religious, educational, cultural, health care, and environmental services are not negatively impacted

by changes to the Federal income tax deduction for charitable donations. **Page S4264**

Enzi Amendment No. 824, to protect taxpayers and businesses from the impact of tax increases imposed while the domestic economy is in crisis. **Pages S4264–65**

Inhofe Amendment No. 742, to provide for advance appropriations for medical care for veterans through the Department of Veterans Affairs. **Page S4266**

Coburn Amendment No. 894, to provide a deficit-neutral reserve fund to set performance standards to identify failing Government programs. **Page S4267**

By 73 yeas to 25 nays (Vote No. 141), Stabenow Amendment No. 879, to modify the authorization for climate change legislation. **Page S4267**

By 54 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 142), Bond Amendment No. 926, to protect workers from significant job loss by providing a point of order against climate change or similar legislation that raises Federal revenues to such an extent that it causes significant job loss in manufacturing-or coal-dependent U.S. regions such as the Midwest, Great Plains or South. **Pages S4268–69**

Conrad (for Klobuchar) Amendment No. 889, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to expedite research at the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency on the viability of the use of higher ethanol blends at the service station pump. **Page S4270**

Conrad (for Dorgan/Snowe) Amendment No. 881, to provide for the use of the deficit-neutral reserve fund for tax relief to extend and expand the charitable IRA rollover. **Pages S4270, S4272**

Conrad (for Dodd/Hatch) Amendment No. 955, to increase funding for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant within the Health Resources and Services Administration by \$188 million in FY 2010. **Page S4271**

Conrad (for Brown) Amendment No. 809, to modify the deficit-neutral reserve fund for Clean Energy to create jobs and strengthen American manufacturing competitiveness by establishing clean renewable energy manufacturing supply chains. **Page S4271**

Conrad (for Begich) Amendment No. 912, to include in deficit-neutral reserve fund for America's veterans and wounded servicemembers funding authority for retirement benefits for members of the Alaska Territorial Guard who served during and after World War II. **Page S4271**

Conrad (for Pryor) Amendment No. 794, to establish deficit-neutral reserve funds to enhance and coordinate drug control efforts among Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies through the expansion of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking

Areas program and increased drug interdiction funding at the Department of Homeland Security. **Page S4271**

Conrad (for Lincoln/Snowe) Amendment No. 876, to ensure that health coverage is affordable to small businesses and individuals who are self-employed. **Pages S4271–72**

Conrad (for Lincoln) Amendment No. 899, to provide for a deficit-neutral reserve fund to promote individual savings and financial security. **Pages S4271–72**

Conrad (for Collins/Lincoln) Amendment No. 883, to ensure that the deficit-neutral reserve fund for higher education may be used for Federal TRIO programs and Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs. **Page S4271**

Conrad (for Hatch/Kennedy) Amendment No. 970, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to support the National Health Service Corps. **Page S4271**

Conrad (for Enzi/Barrasso) Amendment No. 820, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve the animal health and disease program. **Page S4271**

Conrad (for Klobuchar) Amendment No. 887, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to promote payment policies under the Medicare program that reward quality and efficient care and address geographic variations in spending. **Page S4271**

Conrad (for McCaskill) Amendment No. 917, to expand the matters covered by the deficit-neutral reserve fund for defense acquisition and contracting reform. **Page S4271**

Conrad (for Dorgan) Amendment No. 838, to ensure full funding for Adam Walsh Act programs, with an offset. **Page S4271**

Conrad (for Tester) Amendment No. 916, to increase funding for veterans beneficiary travel reimbursement mileage rate, with an offset. **Pages S4271–72**

Conrad (for Lautenberg) Amendment No. 957, to include funding for freight and passenger rail in the deficit-neutral reserve fund for investments in America's infrastructure. **Pages S4272–73**

Wicker Amendment No. 798, to ensure that law abiding Amtrak passengers are allowed to securely transport firearms in their checked baggage. **Page S4274**

Lieberman/Cornyn Amendment No. 904, to add a deficit-neutral reserve fund to reduce the strain on United States military personnel by providing for an increase in the end strength for active duty personnel of the United States Army. **Pages S4274–75**

Udall (CO) Amendment No. 746, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund for wildland fire management activities. **Page S4275**

By 51 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 146), Lincoln Amendment No. 873, to create a deficit-neutral reserve fund for estate tax relief. **Pages S4275–77**

By 56 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. 147), Durbin Modified Amendment No. 974, to provide that no additional estate tax relief beyond that which is already assumed in this resolution, which protects over 99.7 percent of estates from the estate tax, shall be allowed under any deficit-neutral reserve fund unless an equal amount of aggregate tax relief is also provided to Americans earning less than \$100,000 per year. **Page S4278**

Conrad (for Burr) Amendment No. 777, to provide that legislation that would provide authority to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recover from a private health insurer of a disabled veteran amounts paid for treatment of such disability is subject to a point of order in the Senate. **Pages S4278–79**

Conrad (for Hatch) Amendment No. 962, to ensure the continued safety of Americans against terrorist attack by Al Qaeda and other terrorist organizations by providing a point of order against any legislation that would weaken or eliminate critical terror fighting tools. **Page S4279**

Conrad (for Dorgan) Amendment No. 946, to increase the budget authority for the Indian Health Service by an additional \$200 million to obtain a total of \$600 million increase over the FY 2009 enacted level. **Pages S4279–80**

Conrad (for Begich) Amendment No. 901, to express the sense of the Senate regarding the funding level for the Denali Commission. **Page S4281**

Conrad (for Begich) Amendment No. 903, to modify the deficit-neutral reserve fund to invest in clean energy and preserve the environment to provide for additional funding for the conduct of arctic oil spill research. **Pages S4281**

Conrad (for Klobuchar) Amendment No. 886, to create a deficit-neutral reserve fund to improve the safety of the food supply in the United States. **Page S4281**

Conrad (for Alexander) Amendment No. 792, to modify the Deficit-Neutral Reserve Fund for Higher Education, to maximize higher education access and affordability by ensuring that institutions of higher education and their students are able to continue to participate in a competitive student loan program, in order to maintain a comprehensive choice of student loan products and services. **Pages S4281–82**

Conrad (for Crapo/Corker) Amendment No. 958, to provide for a deficit-neutral reserve fund to increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the National Credit Union Administration. **Page S4281**

Conrad (for Hatch/Wyden) Amendment No. 976, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to address our Nation's long-term fiscal problems. **Page S4281**

Conrad (for Hutchison) Amendment No. 867, to reduce U.S. dependence on foreign energy sources, minimize future gasoline price increases, and reduce the federal budget deficit through expanded oil and gas production on the Outer Continental Shelf. **Page S4281**

Conrad (for Enzi) Amendment No. 819, to reinstate the 60-vote point of order under section 425(a)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 for legislation that creates unfunded mandates on States and local governments. **Page S4281**

Conrad (for Barrasso/Crapo) Amendment No. 960, to increase amounts made available for the conduct of reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. **Page S4281**

Conrad (for Barrasso) Amendment No. 890, to provide funding to enable certain individuals and entities to comply with the Endangered Species Act of 1973. **Page S4282**

Conrad (for Crapo) Amendment No. 733, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund for the innovative loan guarantee program of the Department of Energy. **Page S4282**

Conrad (for Crapo) Amendment No. 734, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund for nuclear research and development. **Page S4282**

Conrad (for Hatch) Amendment No. 939, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund for the 2012 completion of Food and Drug Administration facilities. **Page S4282**

Conrad (for Dodd/Hatch) Amendment No. 878, to increase funding for the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant within the Health Resources and Services Administration by \$188,000,000 in fiscal year 2010. **Page S4282**

Conrad (for Murkowski) Amendment No. 841, to increase funding for the National Health Service Corps. **Page S4282**

Conrad (for Barrasso) Modified Amendment No. 890, to provide funding for voluntary efforts to conserve endangered species and to enable certain individuals and entities to comply with the Endangered Species Act of 1973. **Page S4284**

Conrad (for Kyl/Lieberman) Modified Amendment No. 980, to deny funding for federal government expenditures to companies that are obtaining at least \$1,000,000 in revenue from the sale of goods or services to or investment in Iran's energy sector, including, but not limited to: the exploration, development or exploitation of Iran's natural gas or crude oil fields; the import of refined petroleum products, including but not limited to liquefied natural gas

and petroleum bi-products into Iran; the enhancement or maintenance of Iran's oil refineries; and assistance in the import and or export of energy products to or from Iran, including the provision of shipment, insurance, and reinsurance services. **Page S4284**

Conrad (for Coburn) Amendment No. 830, to provide for legislation that allows for a temporary suspension of the 10 percent tax penalty in order for struggling families to make an early withdrawal from their qualified retirement accounts to pay their monthly mortgage payments. **Page S4284**

Conrad (for Barrasso) Amendment No. 765, to provide that the authorized climate change legislation decrease greenhouse gas emissions without regulating carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxide, water vapor, or methane emissions from biological processes associated with livestock production. **Page S4284**

Conrad (for Snowe/Landrieu) Amendment No. 940, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to require a certain portion of funding for the Energy Star Program of the Environmental Protection Agency to be allocated to the Energy Star for Small Business Program. **Pages S4284–85**

Conrad (for Thune/Lincoln) Modified Amendment No. 870, to provide for a total of \$99,000,000 in COPS Hot Spots funding, as authorized in the Combat Meth Act. **Pages S4284, S4287**

Conrad (for Brown) Amendment No. 810, to modify the deficit-neutral reserve fund for economic stabilization and growth to promote new employment opportunities that are critical to economic recovery by supporting workforce strategies that help workers seeking specialized training for emerging industries. **Pages S4284–85**

DeMint Amendment No. 963, to provide for a point of order against any legislation that eliminates the ability of Americans to keep their health plan or their choice of doctor. **Page S4286**

Vitter Amendment No. 751, to protect the more than 6 million Americans employed by the domestic oil and gas industry and to ensure low-cost energy for America's consumers, businesses, and families. **Page S4288**

Rejected:

By 37 yeas to 60 nays (Vote No. 128), Ensign Amendment No. 805, to require certain higher-income beneficiaries enrolled in the Medicare prescription drug benefit to pay higher premiums, as is currently required for physicians' services and outpatient services, and as proposed in the budget of the United States Government most recently submitted by the President. **Pages S4233, S4247–49**

By 38 yeas to 60 nays (Vote No. 129), McCain Modified Amendment No. 882, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S4233–45, S4249**

By 43 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 132), Johanns motion to commit the resolution to the Committee on the Budget, with instructions. **Pages S4253–54**

By 28 yeas to 70 nays (Vote No. 134), Vitter Amendment No. 787, to end \$272 billion in spending on bailouts under TARP and reduce record deficits and levels of debt. **Pages S4255–56**

By 37 yeas to 60 nays (Vote No. 136), Landrieu/Begich Modified Amendment No. 931, to establish a deficit-neutral fund for outer Continental Shelf oil and natural gas leasing revenues. **Pages S4246–47, S4257–58**

By 40 yeas to 58 nays (Vote No. 139), Grassley Amendment No. 950, to ensure that millions of middle-income families do not face an alternative minimum tax increase in 2013 and 2014 and that the budget resolution reflects that result. **Pages S4265–66**

By 31 yeas to 67 nays (Vote No. 140), Sanders Amendment No. 811, to provide for a deficit-neutral reserve fund to establish a national usury law. **Pages S4266–67**

By 42 yeas to 56 nays (Vote No. 143), Bennett Modified Amendment No. 954, to save the American taxpayer over \$150,000,000,000 by adjusting spending levels beyond fiscal year 2010 to compensate for spending from the stimulus bill in the corresponding fiscal years. **Pages S4269–70**

By 31 yeas to 66 nays (Vote No. 148), DeMint Amendment No. 965, to prevent taxpayer-funded bailouts for auto manufacturers. **Pages S4280–81**

By 39 yeas to 58 nays (Vote No. 151), DeMint Amendment No. 964, to establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund to protect small and home businesses from the burdensome and impractical requirements of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008. **Pages S4286–87**

By 41 yeas to 56 nays (Vote No. 152), Coburn Amendment No. 828, to protect the freedom of conscience for patients and the right of health care providers to serve patients without violating their moral and religious convictions. **Pages S4287–88**

By 18 yeas to 79 nays (Vote No. 153), Vitter Amendment No. 937, to require States to implement drug testing programs for applicants for and recipients of assistance under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, which would encourage healthy, drug-free families instead of encouraging dependent behavior or on-going drug abuse. **Pages S4288–91**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 46 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 144), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive section 305 of the Congressional Budget Act

of 1974 with respect to consideration of Cornyn Amendment No. 934, to increase transparency by requiring five days of public review of legislation before passage by the Senate. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was not germane to the provisions of the Budget Resolution was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Page S4273**

By 63 yeas to 35 nays (Vote No. 145), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to waive section 305 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Wicker Amendment No. 798, to ensure that law abiding Amtrak passengers are allowed to securely transport firearms in their checked baggage. Thus, the point of order raised was rendered moot. **Page S4274**

By 28 yeas to 69 nays (Vote No. 149), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive section 305 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of DeMint Amendment No. 967, to implement President Obama's earmark reforms. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was not germane to the provisions of the Budget Resolution was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Pages S4283–84**

By 36 yeas to 61 nays (Vote No. 150), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive section 305 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 with respect to consideration of Sessions Amendment No. 969, to provide for a point of order against any appropriations bill that fails to fully fund the construction of the Southwest border fence. Subsequently, a point of order that the amendment was not germane to the provisions of the Budget Resolution was sustained, and the amendment thus fell. **Pages S4285–86**

Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of S. 735, to ensure States receive adoption payments for fiscal year 2008 in accordance with the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008, and the bill was then passed. **Page S4397**

Fifth Summit of the Americas: Senate agreed to S. Res. 90, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the Fifth Summit of the Americas, held in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, April 17, 18, and 19, 2009. **Pages S4397–98**

Tragic Events at Pinelake Health and Rehab Center: Senate agreed to S. Res. 101, expressing the sense of the Senate on the tragic events at the

Pinelake Health and Rehab Center in Carthage, North Carolina on Sunday, March 29, 2009.

Page S4398

Joint Committee on Printing and Joint Committee of Congress on the Library: Senate agreed to S. Res. 102, providing for members on the part of the Senate of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library.

Page S4398

Authorizing Testimony and Document Production: Senate agreed to S. Res. 103, to authorize testimony and document production in Richard Bowen v. Department of the Navy (MSPB). **Pages S4398–99**

Adjournment Resolution: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 93, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

Page S4399

Measures Considered:

Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act—Cloture Agreement: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 386, to improve enforcement of mortgage fraud, securities fraud, financial institution fraud, and other frauds related to federal assistance and relief programs, for the recovery of funds lost to these frauds. **Page S4399**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Tuesday, April 21, 2009.

Page S4399

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at 2:00 p.m., on Monday, April 20, 2009. **Page S4400**

Authorizing Leadership To Make Appointments—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the recess or adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President Pro Tempore, and the Majority and Minority Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S4399**

Authority for Committees—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding an adjournment of the Senate, that Senate committees be authorized to file legislative and executive calendar business on Thursday, April 16, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

Page S4399

Removal of Injunction of Secrecy: The injunction of secrecy was removed from the following treaty:

Annex VI to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty (Treaty Doc. No. 111–2).

The treaty was transmitted to the Senate today, considered as having been read for the first time, and referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed. **Page S4399**

West-Breuer-Varney Nominations—Agreement:

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, April 20, 2009, Senate begin consideration of the nominations of Tony West, of California, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Lanny A. Breuer, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, and Christine Anne Varney, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Attorney General, and vote on confirmation of the nominations; provided that prior to each vote, there be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided and controlled in the usual form; provided further, that each vote following the first be 10 minutes in duration. **Page S4400**

Hill Nomination—Cloture Agreement: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Christopher R. Hill, of Rhode Island, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iraq. **Page S4301**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, April 2, 2009, a vote on cloture will occur on Monday, April 20, 2009, following the disposition of the nominations specified in a previous order for Monday, April 20, 2009, and that there be 20 minutes of debate, equally divided and controlled between the two Leaders, or their designees. **Page S4301**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Timothy F. Geithner, of New York, to be United States Governor of the International Monetary Fund for a term of five years; United States Governor of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of five years; United States Governor of the Inter-American Development Bank for a term of five years; United States Governor of the African Development Bank for a term of five years; United States Governor of the Asian Development Bank; United States Governor of the African Development Fund; United States Governor of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Jane Holl Lute, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security.

Karen Gordon Mills, of Maine, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

John Berry, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Office of Personnel Management for a term of four years.

James N. Miller, Jr., of Virginia, to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

Richard Rahul Verma, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Legislative Affairs).

Esther Brimmer, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Organization Affairs).

Karl Winfrid Eikenberry, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

Melanne Verveer, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador at Large for Women's Global Issues.

W. Scott Gould, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Alexander Vershbow, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Rose Eilene Gottemoeller, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance).

James W. Miller, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration.)

Kathleen A. Merrigan, of Massachusetts, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration.)

Joe Leonard, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

(Prior to this action, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration.)

22 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

5 Army nominations in the rank of general.

2 Marine Corps nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S4401–03**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Andre M. Davis, of Maryland, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fourth Circuit.

Gerard E. Lynch, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

Krysta Harden, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

Jo-Ellen Darcy, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

Scott Blake Harris, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Energy.

Timothy W. Manning, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Administrator for National Preparedness, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

John U. Sepulveda, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Human Resources).

8 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Foreign Service.

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Record Votes: Twenty-seven record votes were taken today. (Total—154)	Pages S4248–51, S4253, S4255–58, S4261, S4264–68, S4270, S4273–74, S4277–78, S4281, S4283–84, S4286–89, S4293

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 2, 2009 and adjourned, pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 93, at 12:42 a.m. on Friday, April 3, 2009, until 2 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2009. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S4400.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FHA ROLE IN ADDRESSING HOUSING CRISIS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine the role of the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) in addressing the housing crisis, after receiving testimony from Shaun Donovan, Secretary, Kenneth M. Donohue, Inspector General, both of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; J. Lennox Scott, John L. Scott Real Estate, Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the National Association

of REALTORS; and Mia Vermillion, Lakewood, Washington.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 454, to improve the organization and procedures of the Department of Defense for the acquisition of major weapon systems, with an amendment.

NOMINATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Regina McCarthy, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, of the Environmental Protection Agency, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Dodd, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Kathleen Sebelius, of Kansas, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, after the nominee, who was introduced by former Senator Robert J. Dole and Senator Roberts, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT SPENDING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine recovery and reinvestment spending, after receiving testimony from Robert Nabors II, Deputy Director, Office of Management and Budget; and Earl E. Devaney, Chairman, Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board.

TRIBAL BILLS

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 313, to resolve water rights claims of the White Mountain Apache Tribe in the State of Arizona, S. 443, to transfer certain land to the United States to be held in trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, to place land into trust for the Hoh Indian Tribe, S. 633, to establish a program for tribal colleges and universities within the Department of Health and Human Services and to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to authorize the provision of grants and cooperative agreements to tribal colleges and universities, and H.R. 326, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take lands in Yuma County, Arizona, into trust as part of the reservation of the Cocopah Tribe of Arizona, after receiving testimony from Ronnie Lupe, White Mountain Apache Tribe, Whiteriver, Arizona; Jonette Reyes, Hoh Indian Tribe, Forks, Washington; Paul Soto, Cocopah Indian Tribe, Somerton, Arizona; and